

December 6, 2008 - Volume 46, Number 13 - Edition 1455 - ISSN 899-9733

Nominations for the IRCA 2009 Elections

IRCA members, it is time to think about who you would like to represent you as the next club President, Secretary-Treasurer and Board of Directors. Their term will start on September 15th, 2009 per the IRCA Constitution, Article III, Section 5, Part 2.

Nominations are now open for President, Secretary-Treasurer, and seven members of the Board of Directors from December 1st, 2008 through January 15th, 2009. Only one nomination each for President, Secretary-Treasurer, and only seven nominations for the Board, shall be allowed each IRCA member. An eligible member may nominate his or herself. All nominations must be submitted in written form to the ECC by January 15th.

IRCA's Election Committee Chairman (ECC) is **Nick Hall-Patch**, who can be contacted via email at: nhp@tee.org or by mail: 1538 Amphion St., Victoria, BC, Canada V8R4Z6 (72c in stamps for Canada)

IRCA Convention 2009!!!

The **2009 IRCA convention** will be held Thu Sept 17, Fri Sept 18 and Sat Sept 19 at the Days Inn, 2120 Menaul Blvd NE, Albuquerque NM 87107 (Near I-40 and Hwy 25) www.midtowndaysinn.com. Guest room rates \$44.95 1 person, \$54.95 2 persons. Free shuttle within 5 mile radius (includes airport and train station.) Phone number for reservations is 505-884-0250 (events manager is Danita) Registration fee is \$25 (not including banquet) payable to **Mike Sanburn**, PO Box 1256, Bellflower CA 90707-1256. mikesanburn@hotmail.com 73

Pacific Asian Log AM Radio Guide Updated!!!!

The classic Pacific Asian Log of mediumwave [AM] radio stations on air across the entire region has now been updated at www.radioheritage.net.

Produced by **Bruce Portzer** in Seattle WA, this extensive radio guide covers literally thousands of AM radio stations and is hosted by the Radio Heritage Foundation. It draws on monitoring by many volunteers across the region, as well as information directly from broadcasters so it's accurate and up to date.

You can search the database or download a pdf version for your own non-commercial use by visiting www.radioheritage.net/PAL_search.asp today.

Amongst the stations you'll find on 1602 AM are 2CP Cooma [Australia], All India Radio, Ziro [India], JOKC Kofu [Japan], HLQE Sabuk [South Korea], Radio Reading Service, Levin [New Zealand], and DZUP Quezon City [Philippines]. The most powerful station listed in the region is 50kW Radio Khost, located in Afghanistan.

You'll find the Pacific Asian Log Radio Guide useful for business and vacation travel [just print out the stations from the countries you're visiting], radio monitoring, advertising and PR campaign media planning and much more... it's up to date and it's free.

The Pacific Asian Log traces its origins back to radio station call lists first published in New Zealand during the 1930's, and is volunteer supported and produced as a free service for everyone.

IRCA Slogans List (Winter 2008)

This season's update of the **IRCA Slogans List** is ready!! This revised Slogans List includes radio slogans from the US, Canada and Mexico (over 4000).

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** - \$6.00 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$8.00 (rest of the Americas/Europe airmail), \$8.50 (Australia/Japan/New Zealand airmail). Non-IRCA/NRC members - add \$1.00.

To order the **Slogan's List** from the **IRCA Bookstore**, send the correct amount to: **IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334** (checks payable to **Phil Bytheway** - PayPal [add \$0.50] email: phil_tekno@yahoo.com). Please state club affiliation when ordering.

IRCA Mexican Log, 13th Edition (Winter 2008)

The **IRCA MEXICAN LOG** lists all AM stations in Mexico by frequency, including call letters, state, city, day/night power, slogans, schedule in UTC/GMT, formats, networks and notes. The call letter index gives call, frequency, city and state. The city index (listed by state, then city) includes frequency, call and day/night power. The transmitter site index (listed by state, then city) tabulates the latitude and longitude of transmitter sites. This is an indispensable reference for anyone who hears Mexican radio stations. Size is 8 1/2" x 11".

Prices: **IRCA/NRC members** - \$9.50 (US/Canada/Mexico/sea mail), \$12.00 (rest of the Americas/Europe airmail), \$12.50 (Australia/Japan/New Zealand airmail). Non-IRCA/NRC members - add \$2.00.

To order the **Mexican Log** from the **IRCA Bookstore**, send the correct amount to: **IRCA BOOKSTORE, 9705 MARY NW, SEATTLE WA 98117-2334** (checks payable to **Phil Bytheway** - PayPal [add \$1.00] email: phil_tekno@yahoo.com). Please state club affiliation when ordering.

CANADIAN RADIO NEWS

Dan Sys-- dsysca@yahoo.ca

For November 2008 (December 1 2008 - next update January 1 2009)

FORMAT CHANGES

650 BC Richmond CISL From Oldies (C-"isle") to Adult Standards (AM 650)

CALL LETTER DATA

1490 BC Campbell River CFWB Will become CIQC (when flip to 99.7 occurs)

OFF THE AIR

1280 BC Powell River CHQB Simulcast time for FM conversion expires
1450 ON Cobourg CHUC Simulcast time for FM conversion expires

AM TO FM CONVERSIONS GRANTED

780 NS Dartmouth CFDR Move to 92.9 with 63,000 watts (100,000 watts Max. ERP)
790 ON Sudbury CIGM Move to 93.5 with 100,000 watts

TECHNICAL CHANGES GRANTED

790 AB Camrose CFCW Move to 840 with 50,000 watts days - 40,000 watts nights
1450 NS Windsor CFAB Extension granted to November 27, 2009 to get earlier approved FM flip (from 2006) on the air. Finding an acceptable frequency is the cause of the delay.

OWNERSHIP CHANGES GRANTED

780 NS Dartmouth CFDR From Newcap to Rogers
790 ON Sudbury CIGM From Rogers to Newcap

PROPOSED NEW STATIONS

700 AB Calgary 50,000 watts days - 20,000 watts nights (Gospel) (Touch Canada)
960 ON Markham 1,000 watts days - 175 watts nights (South Asian) (Kumar Nadarajah)
1230 BC Merritt 1,000 watts fulltime (News-Talk) (will simulcast CHNL 610 Kamloops) (will take over existing 1230 facilities if proposed CJNL FM flip is approved)
1350 ON Scarborough 1,000 watts days - 87 watts nights (South Asian) (Subanasari Vaithilingam)

PROPOSED AM TO FM CONVERSIONS

1020 AB High Prairie CKVH Move to 93.5 with 25,000 watts (format will remain Classic Hits)
1230 BC Merritt CJNL Move to 101.1 with 200 watts (no format details available)
1310 AB Saint Paul CHLW Move to 97.7 with 16,000 watts (36,000 watts Max. ERP) (format will remain Country)
1550 ON Windsor CBE Move to 97.5 with 3,200 watts (19,000 watts Max. ERP) (earlier grant for a CBC Radio One nested repeater for Windsor on 102.3 will be rescinded if this application is approved)

I attempt to be as accurate as possible with this information. I visit many websites and message boards on a daily basis seeking the latest in Canadian radio news to report in this column. I trust this information to be worthy; however I can't be in all these places to confirm everything. If inaccurate information is reported I do apologize, but don't blame me... I'm only the messenger.

WESTERN DX ROUNDUP
Nancy Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings MT 59102-7755
E-mail: NancyJohnson@prodigy.net

WDXR DEADLINES: Each Friday. Please use Eastern Time.

REPORTERS FOR THIS ISSUE:

- (AB) **Art Blair**-730 SW 3rd St.-Fruitland, ID 83619
 (BB) **Bill Block**-7716 E. Theima Drive-Prescott Valley, AZ 86314 **billwblock@msn.com**
 (MS) **Mike Sanburn**-PO Box 1256-Bellflower, CA **mikesanburn@hotmail.com**
 Sony M40W

 550 KOAC **OR**, Corvallis 11/26 0850 with weather for Portland and the Oregon Coast. (BB-AZ)
 1050 KJPG **CA**, Frazier Park 11/10 0930 coming out of Fire on Earth Show, Rosary, legal ID at 1000; over KCAA. (MS-CA)
 1150 KNRV **CO**, Englewood 11/15 1858 Latino vocal music, KNRV ID at 1900:55. Poor. (AB-ID)
 1340 KTSN **NV**, Eiko 11/21 2119 Radio Shack ad and KTSN ID. (AB-ID)
 1400 KZNW **WA**, Wenatchee 11/21 0958 local weather, KZNW ID at 0959. (AB-ID)
 1400 KQMS **CA**, Redding 11/19 1924 woman with back-to-back KQMS ID's. At 1935 gent with "Newstalk 1400" slogan. (AB-ID)
 1440 KAZG **AZ**, Scottsdale 11/21 1016 the Shirelles song "Dedicated to the One I Love," local weather, KAZG ID at 1019. (AB-ID)
 1520 KMPG **CA**, Hollister 11/23 0900 in good with lively Spanish music. (MS-CA)
 1600 (KAHZ) **CA**, Pomona 11/12 0655 off briefly leaving KYBC. Back at 0700. (MS-CA)

Thanks to Art, Bill and Mike we have a column this week. Nancy 11/28 1900

CENTRAL DX ROUNDUP

John C Johnson – 265 Waterton Wy – Billings MT 59102-7755
E-mail: John_Johnson@prodigy.net
CDXR reports ONLY: cdxr@prodigy.net

RIDING GAIN

Chris Knight, Fort Lupton, CO **cjknigh63@msn.com**

Drake R8, Sony ICF-SW7600GR, various antennas, Quantum Phaser.

DOWN THE DIAL

- 600 KOGO **CA**, San Diego, 11-27 good with semi-local KCOL nulled. 22:36 with promo for Rush Limbaugh "...on AM 6 hundred ko-go" and local spot. [CK-CO]
 1010 KTNZ **TX**, Amarillo. 11-25 poor to fair. 23:16 with ID by man, "KTNZ Amarillo. Your home for... country music." Country format. Lost down in mess. New catch. [CK-CO]

25 YEARS AGO

November 29, 1983 issue of IRCA's "DX Monitor" ... **Gerry Thomas** of Pensacola, FL found his DX time cut considerably due to his interest in computers and his new Commodore-64 ... **Pat Martin** of Seaside, OR logged his first Indonesian with Radio Republic Indonesia-Surabaya on 585 ... **Don Norman** of Edmonton, AB has been enjoying CFRN-1260 going off the air on weekends after midnight ... **Jim Hilliker** of Anaheim, CA logged 38 new stations in October.

OPEN MIKE

Are you still stuffed from Thanksgiving? December is here, time to start making out that list for Santa. This column was typed 11-29-08. 73, John

EASTERN DX ROUNDUP

Lee J Freshwater – 414 SE 3rd St – Ocala FL 34471
E-mail: EDXR at AMLGBOOK dot COM

Deadlines: Saturdays 8 AM!!

(LF-FL) **your editor**

STARS OF THE WEEK
 Ocala, FL

- Drake R-8B, KIWA Loop, Potomac FIM-41, MFJ Phasor, LF
- ENG Active ant MFJ 616 audio enhancer, BSI Auto Logging Software, Vox Pro E-2 editing software GRUNDIG Satellit 800 Watkinsville, GA
- 2003 ISUZU Rodeo In-Dash Audio System 4340, DRAKE R-8B, 135' N/S LW, SANGAN AT5 909

(IEN-GA) **Ira Elbert New**

- (KK-VA) **Kraig Krist**
 Manassas, VA
 NRD-545 rx with homemade 134 foot multiband antenna running NW to SE and homemade 12 foot vertical antenna. Jacksonville, NC
 Toyota Highland Embedded windshield antenna 2412 59th Place, Cheverly, MD
 DX-398

 (MH-NC) **Mike Hardester**
 (WM-MD) **William McGuire**

LOGGERS

- 550 NC WIOZ Pinehurst, 11/20/1905, ID heard under Sports Talk; NEW. (WM-MD)
 610 FL WIOD Miami, 11/20 2000, ID heard in mix. (WM-MD)
 620 NY WHEN Syracuse, 11/18 1900, PSA; "Sports Radio 620." (WM-MD)
 820 TX WBAP Fort Worth, 11/21 1955, Local Promo "News Talk 820"; ID. (WM-MD)
 850 CO KOA Denver, 11/18 2100, Car Ad; "News Radio 850"; ID. (WM-MD)
 910 AR KLCN Blytheville, 11/22 1752, University of Arkansas football and The Sonic Post Game Show. Decent, steady signal. "Newstalk 910, KLCN." (IEN-GA)
 920 GA WGKA Atlanta, 11/18 1470, SID in mess; NEW. (WM-MD)
 ON CKNX Wingham, 11/20 1858, Local ads; "Primitime Sports"; ID. (WM-MD)
 940 IL WMIX Mount Vernon, 11/28 1743, Barry Manilow with Ready To Take A Chance Again. Good, steady signal. "AM 940, WMIX." (IEN-GA)
 950 PA WPEN Philadelphia, 11/19 2007, Villanova BB heard. (WM-MD)
 960 AL WERC Birmingham, 11/18 1800, ID heard in ?? (WM-MD)
 1200 TX WOAI San Antonio, 11/22 2100, Weight loss ad; "Newsradio 1200"; ID. (WM-MD)
 1290 GA WTKS Savannah, 11/26 2000, In Poor with local Promo. Should be better. (LF-FL)
 1300 TN WNQM Nashville, 11/28 0100, Fair signal with end of Spanish Programming into talk show in English. (LF-FL)
 1400 NC WSTK Jacksonville, noted testing 11/26 at 1145-1215 and 1257-1330 with instrumental music (heavy on the percussions), some TV theme songs, or portions: "Friends," "Family Guy," "Barney's" theme (aargh!!). Three different IDs noted for WSTK 1400 in Jacksonville and (simulcasting? if so, not heard locally) WAVQ 104.5 in Aurora. Obviously a good signal. The WSTK callsign being the former callsign for current WSRP-910 in Jacksonville. WSTK's distance from my QTH = 2.869 miles. (MH-NC)
 Warren, 11/25 1640-1735, WAJR, oldies, talk and ESPN mixing. Talk about benefits of green tea. 1659 "The Green Tea program... representation... may not necessarily reflect those of AM fourteen forty or Salem Communications...." 1700 "Your home for Christian talk fourteen forty 'The Word' a Salem Communications station" then joins CSU basketball game in progress. (KK-VA)
 Morgantown, 11/25 1640-1735, WHKZ, oldies, talk and ESPN mixing. 1709 music jingle and "Fourteen forty WAJR Morgantown" into furniture ad. (KK-VA)
 Dumfries-Triangle, 11/22 1655-1805, SS mx, ID, pronouncing in English (KK-VA)
 "WPWC Dumfries, Washington" into SS MX.
 Hampton, 11/21 1645-1718, WXTG mixing w/WVSG, singing and religious, church type singing. 1702 with "Fox Sports", then "...one oh two point one 'The Game'..." According to the WXTG website, **www.1021fmthegame.com** this WXTG as they also // on 1490 kHz. (KK-VA)
 Sutton, 11/21 1645-1718, WSGB mixing w/WXTG, singing and religious, church type singing. 1648 song "Build Me Up Buttercup", then "Fourteen ninety WSGB. (KK-VA)
 Iowa City, 11/22 1800, Singing ID after song. (WM-MD)
 Jersey City, 11/22 1900, "This is Multicultural Radio"; ID. (WM-MD)
 Charlotte, 11/22 1900, Clemson/Charlotte BB. (WM-MD)
 1680 LA KJRO Monroe, 11/22 2300, Black Gospel MX heard. (WM-MD)
 1690 GA WMLB Avondale Estates, 11/22 2000, ID heard. (WM-MD)

Thanks to our reporters this week. I actually loaded some new logging software and turned the radio on. I hope everyone had a nice Holiday. Best to all...
 fresh 11-29 0917

DX WORLDWIDE – WEST / TROPICAL BAND DX
Patrick Martin – PO Box 843 – Seaside OR 97138
E-mail: mwdxr@webtv.net all times UTC

Greetings everyone,

A really nice bunch of TA and TP tips from Nigel and LA tips from Chris and Martin. So here we go.

TRANS ATLANTIC DX ROUNDUP

531 **UNID**, Nov 21 at 0700 UTC. Heard time pips, and then noted very weak talk a couple of minutes later, but too weak to discern language. (NP-AB)

585 **SPAIN**, Madrid, RNE1 Nov 21 at 0440. Man interviewing another in SS. (NP-AB)

639 **SPAIN**, Synchros RNE1 Nov 21 at 0537. After being at poor levels for over an hour finally rose enough to determine it was // other RNE1 channels. (NP-AB)

747 **UNID**, Nov 21 0005 Traces of audio. (NP-AB)

774 **SPAIN**, synchros RNE 1 Nov 21 0512 Rather weak audio with man talking, but definitely //585. (NP-AB)

783 **UNID**, Nov 21 0624. Traces of Koran recitations, so very likely Mauritania. (NP-AB)

855 **SPAIN**, synchros RNE 1 0632. Man speaking in SS //639. (NP-AB)

999 **SPAIN**, Madrid COPE Nov 21 at 0501. Quite clear at times, with news and mention of Obama. This one was in and out for almost 4 hours! (NP-AB)

999 **UNID**, Nov 24 2347 Vocal by man. (NP-AB)

1008 **SPAIN**, synchros, SER Nov 21 0559, weak but definitely // with stronger SER signal on 1116 kHz. (NP-AB)

1035 **UNID**, Nov 21 0435. Came up to weak audio level for a minute or so with duet by man and woman. Given all the Spaniards I was hearing, Portugal seems the most likely. (NP-AB)

1044 **UNID**, Nov 21 0702. Could just make out faint traces of man speaking but too weak to determine language. (NP-AB)

1089 **UK**, synchros TalkSport Radio Nov 21, 0500. "TalkSport News" read by man and a woman. (NP-AB)

1089 **UNID**, Nov 21 0047 Station faded up for a couple of minutes with Koran recitations. (NP-AB)

1116 **SPAIN**, synchros SER Nov 21 0436. Man in SS, then a few seconds of intro music to another program segment. This one was in, quite well at times, for about 3 hours. (NP-AB)

1134 **CROATIA**, Nov 29 0522. Vocal by a woman, then announcer in presumed Croatian talking to another man. (NP-AB)

1215 **UK**, synchros Absolute Radio Nov 22, 0559 Pop music, man said "there's loads of stuff in absoluteradio.co.uk..." (NP-AB)

1215 **SPAIN**, synchros, COPE Nov 22 0659. Man talking in SS, then fanfare and into news. Replaced by Absolute Radio by 0701. (NP-AB)

1269 **GERMANY**, DLF Nov 24, 0018. Woman speaking slowly in FF, sounded like a language lesson. (NP-AB)

1305 **SPAIN**, synchros RNE5 Nov 21 0647 Man in SS //1314. (NP-AB)

1314 **SPAIN**, synchros RNE5 Nov 21 0648. Weak but definitely man in SS //1305. (NP-AB)

1323 **GERMANY**, Wachenbrunn, VoR Nov 22 0558. Man in unk language (maybe Radio Santeac program in GG) then VoR interval signal and ID as "World Service of the Voice of Russia". (NP-AB)

1341 **UNID**, Nov 24 2344. Vocal by man. (NP-AB)

1422 **GERMANY**, Heuusweiler, DLF Nov 21 0636. Deutschlandfunk programming with man speaking in GG //1269. (NP-AB)

1467 **FRANCE**, Roumoules TWR Nov 24, 2318 Very good signal with rel program with man talking in EE. Program ended at 2328, then signal took a big dip, but heard TWR IS at 2330, then silence until carrier went off at 2332. (NP-AB)

1503 **UNID**, Nov 21 0005 Traces of audio with man talking. (NP-AB)

1584 **UNID**, Nov 21 0005 Traces of audio with music. (NP-AB)

PAN AMERICAN DX ROUNDUP

540 **MEXICO**, Nuevo Casas Grandes, Chih, XETX 11/27 at 0434. Good signal. Tuned into jingle "XETX La Ranchera de Paquime" then 3 call ID's in a row followed by musica Nortena. (CK-CO)

640 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih, XEJUA 11/27 at 0200-0205. Fair signal w/KFI with full ID including call letters, and "desde Ciudad Juarez" mentioned. Another station IDing as "Radio Uno" (likely XEHH) underneath. (CK-CO)

970 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih, XEJ 11/26 at 0240-0255. Fair-good signal with Ranchera music. "L J Mexicana 9-70" slogan also call ID, and "La J Mexicana. Una emisora Mexicana." (CK-CO)

990 **MEXICO**, Mexicali, BCN, XECL, 11/26 at 0310-0327. Poor signal, but some good peaks. Ad for Coke, "Rockola" slogan followed by catchy female jingle, into baseball game with many mentions of "Culiacan" and "Mexicali" (likely the 2 teams). Another station in Spanish underneath. (CK-CO)

1000 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih, XEFV 11/25 at 0340-0345. Good signal with "...en la Rancherita" slogan, Ranchera music. PSA about water from the "Gobierno Federal" (CK-CO)

1010 **MEXICO**, ?? UNID, 11/25 at 0325-0412. Good signal with "Mega 10-10, Lo mejor en musica" slogans, ad, "La temperatura 19 grados", OC for 2 minutes then into musica romantica. "Lo major en tu musica" by man. Mostly over a Christian station in SS. Gave call ID at 0402, but all I copied was the "XE". (CK-CO)

1010p **MEXICO**, Chihuahua, Chih, XELO 11/26 at 0405-0410. Likely the station with Mexican pop music and "La X, La Numero Uno" slogan. (CK-CO)

1030 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih XEYC 11/26 at 0258-0302. Several mentions of "Cuidad Juarez" and "Gobierno Federal." At ID time: "Estas escuchando" Then open carrier for a minute (Just my luck) then "Somos Grupo Formula" and into talk program. QRM from XESDD at times. (CK-CO)

1040 **MEXICO**, Guaymas, Son. XEGYS 11/27 at 0506-0512. Good peak with Nortena music. Jingle: "En la Primera la hora exacta es" then man announcer said "10-10" quick ad and promo then back into Nortena. (CK-CO)

1050 **MEXICO**, Monterrey, NL XEG 11/27 at 0514 Excellent signal over KTBL with promo for "NRM Comunicaciones" "La Ranchera de Monterrey" slogans. (CK-CO)

1170 **MEXICO**, Caborca, SON XEIB 11/25 0718 music and La Primera 11-70 slogan between songs, fair with some occasional KCBQ QRM. Nice ToH ID at 0800 mentioning 24 hours and 1,000 watts. New here. (MF-CA)

1260 **MEXICO**, Ojinaga, Chih XEOG 11/27 at 0342-0412. Fair peaks with smooth vocals in SS, call letter ID at 0345: "XEOG, Radio Rancho..." back to vocals. Trading places with XESA. (CK-CO)

1260 **MEXICO**, Culiacan, Sin. XEA 11/27 at 057-0410. Fair peaks with "La Mexicana" slogans, Ranchera music, partial ID including "5 mil watts de potencia" and mentions of "Sinaloa" and "Sinaloense" XEOG QRM at times. (CK-CO)

1320 **MEXICO**, Piedras Negras, Coah. 11/26 at 0207-0210. Excellent signal with slogan "La musica de mi terra, Radio Mexicana 13-20", into Ranchera music. (CK-CO)

1560 **MEXICO**, Cd. Juarez, Chih, XEJPV, 11/27 at 0342-0347, Festive music, slogan: "Radio Viva presento Concierto Grande..." with mention of "Jesucristo". Very good signal. (CK-CO)

TRANS PACIFIC DX ROUNDUP

153 **RUSSIA**, fair at an early check with man in Russian at 0720 UTC 11/30. (PM-OR)

180 **RUSSIA**, a bit weaker than 153, but still fair //153 at 0721 11/30. (PM-OR)

189 **RUSSIA**, poor with same man in Russian // at 0722 11/30, mostly under a carrier. (PM-OR)

279 **RUSSIA**, normally the strongest of the bunch, but not tonight. 153 was much better, also //153, 180, etc noted at 0722 11/30. (PM-OR)

531 **JAPAN**, Morioka, JOQG. 1512 29 Nov. Man talking, poor to briefly fair, //594. (NHP-BC) +Weak with man in JJ at 0715 11/30. (PM-OR)

558 **JAPAN**, Kobe JOCR 1416 11/28 weak with woman in JJ. (DV-WA)

558 **SOUTH KOREA**, Yeong-i, HLQH. 1503 27 Nov. Quiet vocal mx //603 poor to fair. (NHP-BC)

567 **JAPAN**, Sapporo JOIK 1427 11/28 with bits & pieces of audio. (DV-WA)

603 **SOUTH KOREA**, Namyang, HLSA. 1518 26 Nov. Vocal pop mx fair strength, fading to poor once man started talking. Seemed to have a weaker parallel on 558, but not 100% sure. Also noted 1504 30 Nov //558, both at poor level mostly. (NHP-BC)

612 **JAPAN**, Fukuoka, JOLK. 1510 29 Nov. Slow talking man, briefly fair, //594. (NHP-BC)

648 **RUSSIA**, VoR 1457 11/28 1457 11/28 weak with music and splatter. (DV-WA)

657* **DEM KOREA**, 1409 11/28 weak to fair at times with woman singing //3250. (DV-WA)

666 **JAPAN**, Osaka JOBK 1451 11/28 very weak. (DV-WA)

693 **JAPAN**, Tokyo JOAB 1452 11/28 weak with EE lessons. (DV-WA)

774* **JAPAN**, Akita, JOUB 1412 good with man/woman in JJ 11/28. (DV-WA)

828* **JAPAN**, Osaka JOBB 1414 good with wedding music then JJ 11/28. (DV-WA)

846 **JAPAN**, NHK1 synchros. 1534 30 Nov. Man and woman talking //594, poor at best. (NHP-BC)

1134 **JAPAN**, Tokyo JOQR 1439 11/28 weak with man in JJ. (DV-WA)

1134 **SOUTH KOREA**, KBS Hamrinjok Bangsong. 1458 26 Nov. Oriental stringed music, fair //972, followed by woman talking, about equal w/domestic splash. This has been the dominant on the channel recently; formerly it was JOQR. (NHP-BC)

1143 **TAIWAN**, Baisha, BEL3. 1538 29 Nov. Man talking poor to fair //738, but faded rapidly. (NHP-BC)

1188 **UNID**, 1537 26 Nov. Operatic singing by woman; what one might hear on N Korea, but HLKX is more likely I guess. Fair at best in splash. (NHP-BC)

1287 **JAPAN**, Sapporo, JOHR. 1509 26 Nov. Two men talking in JJ, good signal. Unusual lately for this one to be this strong. (NHP-BC)

1377 **CHINA**, CNR1 1422 weak at times with CC //4460. (DV-WA)

1512 **JAPAN**, NHK2 synchros. 1603 Nov 24. Just a few notes of the s/fff chimes made it through the mark, very poor at best. (NHP-BC)

1557 **TAIWAN**, Family Radio, Nov 22 1449. Deep voiced man giving talk about the gospels in English. (NP-AB)

1566 **SOUTH KOREA**, Cheju, HLAZ. 1731 30 Nov. The pattern change at 1730UT resulted in a significant boost of carrier strength, and within a minute, there was recognizable mx and RR talk by woman followed by man. This faded down slowly thereafter, but managed to last here until its 1800 s/fff, strong carrier the whole time, with occasional unreadable audio. 3 low pips and one high one very weakly at 1800 exactly, followed by the carrier switching off. Been trying to hear the Russian broadcast for some time; this is pretty good DX, being over two hours after local sunrise. (NHP-BC)

+1355 fair to good, then faded out before ToH. (DV-WA)

1566 **unID**, 1542 24 Nov. Talk by woman equal in strength to the laughing lady on HLAZ. It had a rough sound, and there was a hum, as this station seemed about 30 Hertz high. Language sounded like it might have been Tagalog, but really too murky to say. The carrier has been strong enough on other mornings to create a hum on the channel, but haven't heard any more audio. (NHP-BC)

1575 **THAILAND**, VOA 1423 11/28 fair with man in Asian language. (DV-WA)

1593 **CHINA**, CNR1 Nov 22, 1448 Man speaking in CC, in what sounded like a drama presentation of some type. (NP-AB)

THANKS TO THESE REPORTERS

MF-CA **MARTIN FOLTZ**, Mission Viejo CA martinfoltz@cox.net
 DXing with HQ-180A and 1 foot air loop antenna

NHP-BC **NICK HALL-PATCH**, 1538 Amphion St., Victoria, BC V8R 4Z6 nhp@ieee.org
 Drake R8, Dymek DR333, north and west Flag antennas, ALA 100 loop, 1m indoor box loop, 14m sloper, DXF-3 phasing unit.

CK-CO **CHRIS KNIGHT**, Fort Lupton CO cgknight63@msn.com
 DXing with Drake R8, 17'x37' SW/NE dual-terminated loop, 16'x34' NW terminated Flag antenna and Quantum Phaser

NP-AB **NIGEL PIMBLETT**, AB, Canada njp@shockwar.com

DV-WA **DENNIS VROOM**, Salimon Creek WA vroomski@comcast.net
 DXing with JRC NRC 545, NW EWE

PM-OR **PATRICK MARTIN**, PO Box 843, Seaside OR 97138-0843 mwdxer@webtv.net,
mwdxer@msn.com
 DXing with Drake R8 and NW EWE

DX FORUM

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Deadlines: 12/6, 12/13, 12/20, 12/27, 1/3, 1/10, 1/17, 1/24, 1/31, 2/7, 2/21 and 3/7

Eric Bueneman (N0UIH), 631 Coachway Lane, Hazelwood, Missouri 63042-1347
 The St. Louis radio dial is getting ready for a major shakeup come January 1, when three radio stations will be changing formats. In mid-October, WMVN 101.1, one of three radio St. Louis area stations owned by Bonneville International, dropped Rhythmic AC and began broadcasting Christmas music in preparation for the launch of an all-sports format on January 1. Part of the programming will be provided by ESPN. The station has started carrying St. Louis University men's basketball. WFFX 1490 has begun the transition from Fox Sports Radio to an Urban Gospel format, picking up the new format on Sundays. They should be full-time with the format in the next few months. What isn't known is if the station plans to return to former call WESL. Fox Sports Radio will move to KSLG 1380. Sporting News Radio will stay on KFNS 590 and KFNS-FM 100.7; of course, the FM signal is used to fill in gaps in the AM's coverage to the west. It is not known what format KRFT 1190 will switch to once ESPN Radio leaves 1190, which has only a 22-watt night signal. St. Louis really needs a full-time Adult Standards or Progressive Talk station. In other station news, KYMC 89.7 in western St. Louis County (licensed to Ballwin, MO) has been sold by the YMCA of West County to a Christian group based in Washington, MO; the same group owns KGNV 89.9 Washington, KGNM 90.3 and KGNU 89.9 in Arnold. The station has changed calls to KGNX; it had been off since January 1, 2007. With the school's transition from NCAA Division II to NCAA Division I athletics, Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's men's basketball games have returned to WSIE 88.7 after three seasons on their internet sister station, Web Radio. Joe Pott, the voice of the Gateway Grizzlies minor league baseball team, is the play-by-play voice for the university. KZQZ 1430 is quickly becoming established as an Oldies station in town; one of the principals behind the station is Terry Fox, who also goes by the name "Fox Man", the name he used during his mid-'80s gig at then-Top 40 station KHTR 103.3 (now Classic Hits KLOU). He was also known by the name Terry Wayne, Jr. at KUSA 550 (now KTRS) during his late '80s gig there. KZQZ has picked up Mad Maynard and Jackie McCoy, last heard locally on KRJY 96.3 (now KIHT) back in 1994; their Oldies show airs on Saturday from 1600 to 1900 ELT. The expansion of radio's biggest scourge, "HD Radio", has apparently stopped for now: the damage totals four AM stations (KFUO 850, KMOX 1120, WSDZ 1260 and KATZ 1600), all commercial FM stations except KFUO-FM 99.1, and non-commercial FM stations KDHX 88.1, WLCA 89.9 and KVMU 90.7. KJSL 630 had plans to go to "HD Radio", but those plans have apparently been scrapped since Crawford put KJSL and sister station KSTL 690 (still broadcasting in AM Stereo) up for sale. "HD Radio" will go the way of the covered wagon... the receivers aren't selling, especially in tough economic times. The Sirius-XM merger has ushered in some programming changes: the service now has five channels dedicated to each decade of pop music; for example, music from the 1940s is available on channel 4 as "The '40s on 4". Other channels are dedicated to the '50s, '60s, '70s, '80s and '90s. For those who enjoy hearing international news and features, World Radio Network is now full time on channel 140, while the Contemporary Christian music channel, the

Message, is simulcast on Sirius channel 66 and XM channel 32. The Easy Listening music channel, Escape, is now available to Sirius subscribers on channel 76. The main reason for choosing Sirius in the first place is WRN. There's going to be some shifting around of programming in the next few months at Sirius-XM, as well as a switch to "la carte" selection, in which the subscriber selects the kind of programming he or she will receive. I won't be surprised if the company is taken private. With local radio largely not worth supporting these days, satellite radio provides some sort of alternative. And with a new administration coming in, we could see a shakeup in broadcast regulation down the road. 73 and good DX from N0UIH.

Mike Sanburn, PO Box 1256, Bellflower, California 90707-1256 mikesanburn@hotmail.com
 Greetings. Over this past year, it was very sad to read of the passing of longtime members Gary Larson and Ray Baurenhuber. Seems like yesterday that Gary, Bob Wien and I were having a pizza at Maurizio's in Glendale. On a happier note, I want to send kudos to Bill Block for the great job hosting the 2008 IRCA convention in Flagstaff, AZ. What a perfect choice of towns for us to converge on. Studios for KAAF-930 were practically across the street from our hotel (and the tower just a bit further down). The local station on 1650 is a bit of a curiosity. Certainly the smallest transmitting antenna I've ever seen. The tours of KAZM--780 and KYBC-1600 were most impressive, as was the banquet at Black Barts. I had prime rib while enjoying the musical floorshow. Some photos of the event should be up on the IRCA website now. In keeping the whole route 66 theme alive, I've bid on the IRCA convention for 2009, to be hosted in Albuquerque, NM at the Days Inn, 2120 Menaul Boulevard NE 87107. Phone for reservations: 5065-884-0250 (ask for Danita). View hotel details online at www.midtowndaysinn.com. Guest room rates are \$44.95 1 person, \$54.95 2 persons. Discounts may be available for AAA (auto club) members. Registration fee of \$25 (not including banquet) is payable to me. Dates are Thu. Sept. 17, Fri. Sept. 18, Sat. Sept. 19. The hotel is near I-40 and Highway 25 intersection and offers free shuttle within a 5-mile radius (includes airport and Amtrak Superchief). More details soon..... Recent loggings here (all call changes) are KJPG-1050, KDZA-1350, KPIG-1510. Have happy Holidays and a great DX season. 73

IRCA TECHNICAL COLUMN

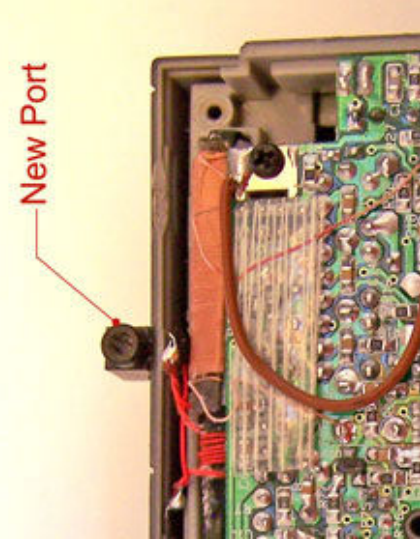
Nick Hall-Patch – 1538 Amphion St – Victoria BC Canada V8R 4Z6

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More on Connecting Outside Antennas to the e100
 by John Bryant

The Slider as a Varticoupler¹

As you probably know, I was the member of our Eton e100 modification team (with Gary DeBock and Guy Atkins) that stumbled on an old design strategy of coupling an outside antenna to a radio that is only equipped with a ferrite bar for AM reception: *putting a several-turn coupling or "pick-up" coil directly on the ferrite bar and connecting that coupling coil to the exterior antenna*. This is one of the simplest receiver modifications possible and works like a charm in many settings. Further, the "swamping effect" of the strong signals coming from the outside antenna through the coupling coil completely deadens the ferrite bar (while it is connected to an exterior antenna) and prevents it from picking up any signals, itself, including those from nearby computers, etc. When I first tried this modification on several Ultralight radios while at our home in rural Oklahoma, I was overjoyed. It allowed anyone with an existing antenna farm to employ those antennas with an Ultralight radio. When we headed west for the summer, I brought along an already modified e100 with a coupling coil and Guy's Murata filter aboard to the Washington state beaches. While at Grayland with the e100 coupled to a highly directional Wellbrook Phased Array, we CLEANED UP, hearing 37 stations from Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific Islands and setting a number of Unlimited Ultralight world distance records.

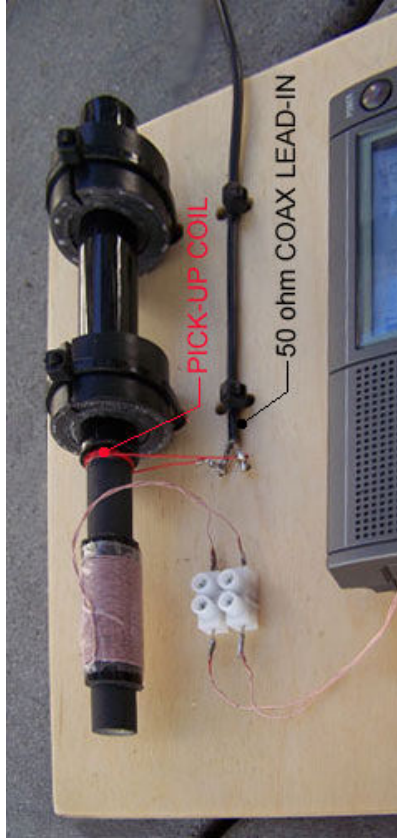


¹ Also known as a "Varticoupler," a "Varti-coupler" and a "Varticoupler."

Everything was wonderful until I brought the e100 with the direct coupling coil to our summer cottage, 20 sea miles due south of Vancouver, British Columbia. This location is one of the worst possible RF environments with the very heavy concentration of major MW stations in Vancouver, with towers operating over perfect briny ground planes and located 20 miles of sea water from my very large antennas. I hooked the directly coupled e100 to my antennas and immediately found it unusable... simply unusable. Hooked directly to my large antennas (no larger though than the ones in Oklahoma or at the beach, tho'), the radio overloaded *massively*. Beside all sorts of images, ghosts, mile-wide modulation, etc., the overloading saturated the receiver so badly that there was a constant murmur, a babble of voices, right across all of MW. After a couple of mornings of work, I did manage to hear 1566 HLAZ, Cheju Island, South Korea, the most powerful station in the less populated upper part of the Trans-Pacific band. That is it! I decided that my Trans-Pacific Ultralight hobby would have to be confined to occasional trips to the beach at Grayland. A very sad state of affairs, since our cottage is a superb TP DX'ing location, if one uses a radio that is resistant to overloading in nasty RF environments.

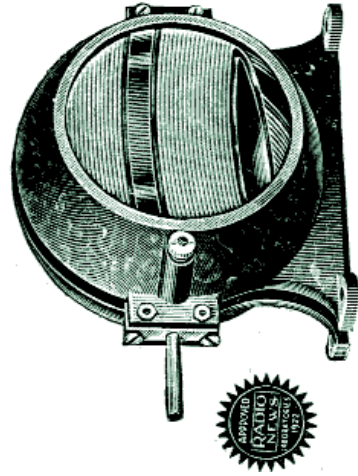
In late October, I remembered Gary DeBock's comments extolling the Slider as a "preselector" between an external antenna and an Ultralight radio, based upon experimentation by Steve Ratzlaff. It made sense that the very selective resonance of the Slider design would not only peak the wanted frequency, but that LACK of resonance across the rest of the band ought to keep all of those huge, nasty Vancouver stations out of my little radio. I had actually put a pick-up coil on my Slider's bar, near the mid-point, and used it at Grayland to very good effect. I had never really tried the Slider as a "variable coupler" here in the Vancouver RF Cesspool.

The next morning, October 25th, I hooked the Slider up to my 70' x 100' Conti Super Loop and went to town! Almost the entire band was open to me... DX'ing open to me! In the next week, through the morning of November 1, I logged 50 Trans-Pacific stations in ten different countries! I could not believe the effectiveness of the Slider/pick-up coil as a device to provide a very narrow high-gain window through which the e100 could look for weak signal DX! Absolutely fabulous.



Hindsight is twenty-twenty! One of the earliest receiver tuning devices was the "vari-coupler," essentially two cylindrical coils, one inside the other, with the smaller coil mounted on a shaft and able to turn. The changing inductance of the two coils as the smaller one was rotated within the larger one was what tuned the radio. An even closer analogy to the Slider/coupling coil variable coupler is the design of many of the very high-tech DX'ing crystal sets in use now. Many of these use two coils, either cylindrical or spider-web, placed in a frame that allows the DXer to change the distance between the two coils easily. This changes the selectivity of the circuit and maintains it at the best combination of selectivity and gain at the specific tuned frequency. No wonder the Slider/coupling coil works so well. We are simply applying an effective old design to a new need.

In practice, variably coupling to external antennas is a bit different from using the Slider by itself. Most of my Slider models have resonated



"Pioneer" Variometer
Price, each, postpaid \$6.50

from low to high frequency, across MW with about half to three-quarter of an inch of movement, out near the end of the bar. The movements needed to peak a signal coming from an external antenna are much larger. Sometimes, I find myself out at the sweet spot near the end of the bar; at other times, the best place is clear in at the center of the bar, adjacent to the coupling coil. Sometimes, the best spot is between the extremes.

The main message, though, is that the Slider, when combined with an external antenna pick-up coil, creates a wondrous Ultralight DX tool for anyone owning an exterior antenna and an e100, especially DXers living in RF-intense urban environments.

Yet More on the Plywood Slider e100

My first design of the Plywood Slider was published rather widely and was the same general configuration as the three versions shown here. In all cases, the Mounting Board is a 9"x 9" piece of 1/4" thick "Baltic Birch" plywood. The base was constructed of a piece of 3/4" Baltic Birch, also 9"x 9". Baltic Birch is a beautiful thin-ply plywood that is so well constructed that you may use the exposed edge as a finished surface. Baltic Birch is obtained at most retail outlets that cater to woodworker hobbyists.



In general, I am pleased with the design of the Plywood Slider. The unit can be operated handheld, though not as handily as Gary DeBock's design. It can also be laid flat on the operator's table or on a plastic kitchen turntable for ease of rotation. With the Mounting Board dropped into the groove in the 3/4" Base, the design is very handy to operate like a conventional tabletop receiver; this was my favorite configuration.

In early October, I shipped Version 1 to Steve Ratzlaff for some serious bench and in-use testing. Steve discovered that having the sliding coil raised only about 1/16" above the Mounting Board, as I had done in Version 1, actually reduced the overall sensitivity slightly, due to magnetic interaction between the plywood and the coil. He suggested raising the coil to at least a clearance of 3/8" for maximum sensitivity. That new specification, along with a desire to simplify construction as much as possible, led to the construction of these three more advanced designs.

Version 2.0

My second Plywood Slider made use of multiple layers of rubber hose of various diameters as the rod spacers, an idea stolen directly from Gary DeBock, of course. Cutting the hose neatly was a problem that I eventually "solved" by using a carpenter's chop saw. Not very safe! Gary used a very sharp kitchen knife for this same task.

The hose was attached to the Mounting Board with plastic cable ties.

Version 2 also eliminated the 1/8" audio plug and jack that I normally use to attach the external antenna coax lead to the (red) pick-up coil. This is great, if one is always going to use the Slider with an external antenna – possibly less than optimum, otherwise.

In Version 2, the Slider coil is stabilized with a wrapping of clear packing tape, rather than my usual Super Glue.

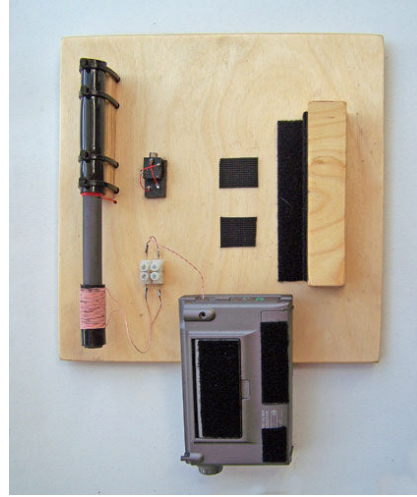


Version 3.0

My third Plywood Slider was an attempt to simplify the bar mounting scheme and a return to my favored approach in coil fabrication and coax connection. The bar is mounted using two supports machined from the hard rubber found in NHL-certified hockey pucks! The pucks, measuring 3" in diameter x 1" thick are ubiquitous in Canada and NHL cities south of the border and are wonderful inexpensive electrically neutral material. I used a 2.5" diameter cylindrical hole saw in a drill press to create a smaller diameter puck which I then cut exactly in half with a chop saw. I then used a .5" speed bit to bore a hole for the ferrite bar as high up in each half-moon as possible. I temporarily mounted the bar and pucks to the



the mounting board while trying to simplify the rod mounting, in more of the 5/8" O.D. tubing to cushion the brittle rod, when force is applied by the cable ties. The spacer block is 5/8" wide by 3 1/2" long, cut from 1/2" thick plywood.



position during operation. The battery door must be left open the radio for maintenance. Two small patches of the "hook" portion of the Velcro were used to connect to the loop pad on the kick stand and affix the radio to the board. The area of Velcro connection should actually be a bit less than the two 3/4" patches shown here, lest the kick stand be ripped from the radio when it is removed from the mounting board for battery change, etc.

Future Plans

With Version 4.0, I believe that I've simplified the construction about as much as is possible. It is very easy and really only requires a table or radial arm saw and hand drill to complete. One improvement that I may pursue is the replacement of the plywood spacer block between the rod and the mounting board with a more magnetically neutral substance. Several possibilities come to mind: very dense foam plastic (Styrofoam plank), a scrap of polymer counter top material (often available at Lowe's, Home Depot, etc.) or multiple thicknesses of a polymer cutting board. If you are contemplating constructing a Plywood Slider, I hope that some of these ideas have been of use to you. If you complete a Slider, it would be great if you could add a few pictures and any further suggestions for others to the Ultralight Files section of **DXer.ca**. You could send the information to me, I'd be glad to post it. **John Bryant bjohnrcas@rockisland.com**

(Other articles about Ultralighting and the e100 may be found in the Ultralight Files area at **dxer.ca**, including "You Can Do This! More About Constructing the Slider e100 Loopstick" for detailed instructions on constructing the Slider described above. The articles in this column first appeared at **www.dxer.ca**, and are used with the author's permission)

The IRCA is a non-profit organization devoted to the hobby of hearing distant stations on the Broadcast Band (510-1720 kHz). **DX Monitor**, the official publication of the IRCA, is published in "soft" form 35 times a year (weekly from November through March, twice monthly from April to November) and in printed form 30 times a year (weekly November through March, monthly April to November). **DX Monitor** contains members' loggings, articles on radio stations, receiver reviews, technical articles, DX tips, and other material of interest to Broadcast Band DX hobbyists.

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